

Tuesday, May 25, 1999

STS-96 crew arrive at KSC for pre-launch preparations



NASA television airing daily status briefings, ISS program status

▲ **Shuttle Update, L-2:** STS-96 crew members arrived at the Shuttle Landing Facility on Sunday night (see photo) to begin preparations for launch on Thursday, May 27, at 6:48 a.m. Commander Kent Rominger and Pilot Rick Husband were expected to fly the Shuttle Training Aircraft yesterday and today. The entire crew is expected to take part in orbiter and payload systems briefings today. Besides Rominger and Husband, the other crew members are Mission Specialists Ellen Ochoa, Tamara Jernigan, Daniel Barry, Julie Payette and Valery Tokarev. Payette is with the Canadian Space Agency and Tokarev is with the Russian Space Agency. This is the first flight into space for Husband, Payette and Tokarev. Jernigan is the most experienced, making her fifth Shuttle flight.



▲ **STS-96 Launch Briefings:** NASA TV is carrying the daily countdown status briefings live at 9 a.m. On Tuesday, May 25, there is a Space Station briefing at 12:30 p.m.; on Wednesday, May 26, a STARSHINE briefing at 10 a.m. NASA television live launch programming begins 1:30 a.m. on Thursday, May 27. Finally, a post-launch press conference will be televised one hour after launch.

◆ **Golf Tournament** -- The SPACERS (OP) 6th Annual Golf Tournament will be held on Friday, June 11, at the Savannah's Golf Club; \$35 contribution. The format is Shotgun Starts beginning at 12:30 p.m.; Best Ball Scramble; Four-Person Team minimum handicap of 50; (only one person with a 10 handicap or less allowed per team). A picnic will be held immediately following the tournament at KARS Park I, Area I. For more information, or to enter, contact Richard Quinn at mail code OP-ESO-B, or phone 867-3381. Entries must be received by June 8.

◆ **Lunch And Learn** -- KSC Fitness Centers present **Functional Fitness**. On Friday, May 28, in the O&C, room 2004, at noon, bring lunch and learn about core strength, stabilization of the torso muscles, and preventative exercises for the neck and back. Call 867-7829 to sign up. For more information, send an e-mail to Susannah.Johnson-Cooper-1@ksc.nasa.gov.

◆ **Roof tops are not to be used as viewing platforms** during special events, launches, etc. According to the Safety office, they are not designed to support the load; in many instances, walking on them can damage the surface, creating leaks. And they do not have protection to prevent you from falling.

◆ **Did You Know?** Sometime during early June 1999, the Safety office will be conducting a seat belt survey as workers enter KSC active gates. Seat belt usage is a requirement of NASA and the state of Florida. But the most important reason to wear seat belts is because they are "lifesavers" for you and your family. June 17 is Super Safety & Health Day.

**Comments or Questions? Mail to: Anita.Barrett-1@ksc.nasa.gov
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